Appln. No. 09/692,762 Amdt. dated July 18, 2003 Reply to Office Action of Feb. 20, 2002

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claim 35 (currently amended): An automatic door latch restraint assembly comprising:

an automatic door latch including a first latch movable to an extended position, a partially retracted position and a fully retracted position, and a first spring biasing the first latch toward the extended position, wherein the automatic door latch comprises actuator bar means for manually retracting the first latch to the fully retracted position upon rotation of the actuator bar means; and

restraint means including a second latch for manually securing the first latch <u>only</u> when the <u>first latch</u> is in the fully retracted position, wherein the restraint means comprises means for substantially preventing rotation of the actuator bar means when the first latch is in the fully retracted position and the restraint means comprises a keeper mounted for rotation with the actuator bar means which receives the second latch when the first latch is in the fully retracted position.

Claim 36 (cancelled)

Claim 37 (cancelled)

Claim 38 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 35, further comprising a manually operable button connected to the second latch for inserting the second latch into the keeper.

Claim 39 (original): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 38, further comprising a second spring biasing the second latch and button away from engagement with the keeper.

Claim 40 (original): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 39, further comprising means for counteracting the biasing force of the second spring when the second latch is inserted in the keeper.



Claim 41 (original): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 40, wherein the means for counteracting the biasing force of the second spring comprises a thin leaf spring in contact with the second latch.

Claim 42 (original): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 35, wherein the first latch is a dead bolt.

Claim 43 (currently amended): An automatic door latch restraint assembly comprising:

an automatic door latch including a dead bolt movable to an extended position in which the dead bolt automatically locks against retraction when end pressure is applied to the dead bolt, a partially retracted position and a fully retracted position, and a first spring biasing the dead bolt toward the extended position; and

restraint means including a second latch for manually securing the dead bolt only when the dead bolt is in the fully retracted position.

Claim 44 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 43, wherein the automatic door latch comprises actuator bar means for manually retracting the dead bolt to the fully retracted position upon rotation of the actuator bar means, and the restraint means comprises means for substantially preventing rotation of the actuator bar means when the dead bolt is in the fully retracted position.

Claim 45 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 44, wherein the restraint means comprises a keeper mounted for rotation with the actuator bar means which receives the second latch when the dead bolt is in the fully retracted position.

Claim 46 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 45, further comprising a manually operable button connected to the second latch for inserting the second latch into the keeper.

Claim 47 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 46, further comprising a second spring biasing the second latch and button away from engagement with the keeper.

Claim 48 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 47, further comprising means for counteracting the biasing force of the second spring when the second latch is inserted in the keeper.

Claim 49 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 48, wherein the means for counteracting the biasing force of the second spring comprises a thin leaf spring in contact with the second latch.

Claim 50 (previously presented): An automatic door latch restraint assembly comprising:

an automatic door latch including a first latch movable to an extended position, a partially retracted position and a fully retracted position, and a first spring biasing the first latch toward the extended position; and

restraint means including a second latch for manually securing the first latch in the fully retracted position, and a second spring biasing the second latch away from a position in which the second latch manually secures the first latch in the fully retracted position.

Claim 51 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 50, wherein the automatic door latch comprises actuator bar means for manually retracting the first latch to the fully retracted position upon rotation of the actuator bar means, the restraint means comprises means for substantially preventing rotation of the actuator bar means when the first latch is in the fully retracted position, and the restraint means comprises a keeper mounted for rotation with the actuator bar means which receives the second latch when the first latch is in the fully retracted position.

Claim 52 (previously presented): The automatic door latch restraint assembly of Claim 50, wherein the first latch is a dead bolt.